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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/747,400	12/22/2000	Roland Radtke	60001.0002US01	8785

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/747,400		RADTKE ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Namitha Pillai		2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's submission on 10/19/05 including amendments to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, the cancellation of claims 2 and 8 and the addition of new claims 13-15. All pending claims have been rejected for being obvious over prior arts disclosed. A new matter rejection has also been included in this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1, 6, 7 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The claims contain subject matter including "solely in response to focusing on the first data field", where the specification does not disclose that the focusing is "***solely*** in response to".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

Art Unit: 2173

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 4, 899, 276 (Stadler) and further in view of U. S. Patent No. 4,646,250 (Childress) and U. S. Patent No. 5,736,984 (Jellinek et al).

Referring to claims 1 and 7, Stadler discloses providing a plurality of data fields amongst these fields, there being a first data field and a second data field, wherein the user would be in a first data field and the next field the user would move to would be the second data field (column 1, lines 21-24 and column 3, line 17). Stadler discloses being in a first data field, thereby bringing focus to that first field, that being the current data field that the user is entering data onto and solely in response to focusing on the first field, displaying a first static information tip proximate to the first data field (column 2, lines 33-37). Stadler then further discusses moving onto the next field, thereby focusing on the second data field, wherein once the user has finished inputting data into the first field, and has pressed "ENTER", the focus is brought to the second data field and the first static information tip is hidden from view (column 3, lines 17-20 and lines 61-65). Stadler also discloses repeating the same steps as was the case for the first field once the user has moved onto the second data field, wherein this suggests, as was the case for the first data field, bringing focus to that second field, that being the current data field that the user is entering data onto and in response to focusing on the second and current field, displaying static information tip proximate to the second data field, wherein the tip would be associated with the data in the second data field (column 3, lines 17-18 and column 2, lines 33-37). Stadler discloses that the first static tip does not interrupt

data input into the first data field (column 3, lines 55-58) and whereby the first information tip remains displayed until the step of focusing on the second data field, the step being pressing "ENTER", which would move the cursor and focus from the first data field to the subsequent second data field (column 3, lines 61-65). Stadler does disclose entering data in the first data field (column 3, line 17). Stadler does not disclose means for determining or handling errors within these fields, as recited in the claims. Childress discloses determining that the data entered into the first field is erroneous and having a means to place error markers adjacent to the first data field, where the errors are found, thereby bringing focus to the first data (column 2, lines 13-20 and lines 37-39). Childress by determining an error and placing markers near the field in which the errors are found, would then bring refocus to the field in which the error is found, with the displaying of such an error marker. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention to learn from Childress to implement a means for detecting and bringing refocus to the first data field that has the erroneous input. Stadler has means for allowing users to input data but as is common with data entry, erroneous data inputs are inevitable. There is no means in Stadler's disclosure for detecting these errors, which would inevitable in any data entry system. Hence, one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention, would have been motivated to learn from Childress to implement error detection and highlighting means for bring refocus to the field with an error input.

Stadler and Childress do not provide means for displaying a third static information tip proximate to the first data field, as recited in the claims. Jellinek

discloses providing tips proximate to the data field, where in response to focusing on the input field and inputting data, the tip providing means provides a information tip for correcting the errors detected, with the third static information tip not interrupting the corrective data input into the data field (Figure 7 and column 7, lines 36-40). Once the error has been determined by the first input by the user, a refocusing step occurs, where in response to refocus brought to the field, the third tip information is displayed. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Jellinek to implement a means for providing a third static tip information for the data field wherein an error was detected. Stadler and Childress do have the means for detecting errors but provides no tip information to correct this error, thereby causing confusion for users who may not know how to fix the errors. As clearly stated in Jellinek, the disclosure states how this invention clearly teaches means for displaying a message to fix the error without being intrusive and wherein the users would simply follow this third static tip to correct the errors. Hence, one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention, would have been motivated to learn from Jellinek to implement a means for providing a static third information tip which would not be obtrusive to the data field.

Referring to claims 3 and 9, Stadler, Childress and Jellinek discloses moving to a second data field and repeating the same process for manipulating this data field (Stadler, column 3, lines 17-18), wherein these steps include the steps recited in claim 2, in reference to the detection and the displaying of error tip information for the second data field.

Referring to claims 4, 5, 10 and 11, Stadler, Childress and Jellinek disclose displaying an error marker proximate to the first and second data fields, and included in all data fields with erroneous data fields (Childress, column 2, lines 37-40).

Referring to claims 6 and 12, Stadler discloses focusing all a first data field, and solely in response to focusing on the first data field, wherein a first static information tip proximate to the first data field (column 2, lines 39-41). Stadler also discloses entering data in the first data field while continuing to display the first static information tip (column 3, lines 61-64). Stadler also discloses moving onto another data field from the first data field, that wherein once the "ENTER" has pressed to move onto the next field, the first static information tip would be hidden from view (column 3, lines 63-65). Stadler does not disclose means for detecting or handling errors within these fields, as recited in the claims. Childress discloses determining that the data entered into the first field is erroneous and having a means to place error markers adjacent to the first data field, where the errors are found, thereby bringing focus to the first data (column 2, lines 13-20 and lines 37-39). It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention to learn from Childress to implement a means for detecting and bringing focus to the first data field that as the erroneous input. Stadler has means for allowing users to input data but as is common with data entry, erroneous data inputs are inevitable. There is no means in Stadler's disclosure for detecting these errors, which would inevitable in any data entry system. Hence, one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention, would have been motivated to learn from Childress to implement error detection and highlighting means.

Stadler and Childress do not provide means for displaying a second static information tip proximate to the first data field, as recited in the claims. Jellinek discloses providing tips proximate to the data field, where in response to focusing on the input field and inputting data, the tip providing means provides a information tip for correcting the errors detected, with the second static information tip not interrupting the corrective data input into the data field (Figure 7 and column 7, lines 36-40). Once the error has been determined by the first input by the user, a refocusing step occurs, where in response to refocus brought to the field, the third tip information is displayed. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Jellinek to implement a means for providing second static tip information for the data field wherein an error was detected. Stadler and Childress do have the means for detecting errors but provides no tip information to correct this error, thereby causing confusion for users who may not know how to fix the errors. As clearly stated in Jellinek, the disclosure states how this invention clearly teaches means for displaying a message to fix the error without being intrusive and wherein the users would simply follow this second static tip to correct the errors. Hence, one skilled in the art, at the time of the invention, would have been motivated to learn from Jellinek to implement a means for providing a static third information tip which would not be obtrusive to the data field.

Referring to claims 13-15, Stadler, Childress and Jellinek disclose that focusing on the first data field comprises placing a cursor in the first data field (Stadler, column 1, lines 39-43).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 10/19/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Claim 1 refers to the step of solely in response to focusing on the first data field. Stadler regardless of if using one or two steps does display the tip information solely in response to the focusing on the first data field. In order for the tip information to be displayed to the user, focusing on a distinct data field is necessary. It may be that within this focusing step taught in Stadler and referred to in the present claims, there may be multiple steps. But the displaying of the tip information is still solely in response to focusing on the data field. Additionally, Stadler may not teach detecting or handling errors within a field, which has been addressed and Childress has been provided in combination with Stadler to teach detecting errors within a field.

The combination of Stadler, Childress and Jellinek teaches all aspects of the claims where all three references are analogous by teaching systems for data entry along with displaying of tip or error information and determining of invalid input. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to learn from Stadler, Childress and Jellinek to combine features found within these references especially concerning error and tip information displayed during data entry. All three references have a common basis of teaching displaying tip information or determining of error information during data entry, where it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to learn from three analogous references in combination to implement the features discussed.

Stadler discloses providing information related to a data field with this data being helpful information used for aiding the user input data into the field. Stadler may not teach a means for detecting errors within a data field but a user of Stadler's system, upon needing tip information would further benefit additional help information including error information displayed based on detecting errors in the input field. A motivation to combine the references above has been based on knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, especially concerning data entry into input fields. One of ordinary skill upon learning the references would determine that Stadler, Childress and Jellinek all teach data entry mechanisms, with Childress determining the errors and Jellinek displaying further tip information for this error which would benefit the same data entry system of Stadler.

Conclusion

5. Responses to this action should be submitted as per the options cited below: The United States Patent and Trademark Office requires most patent related correspondence to be: a) faxed to the Central Fax number (571-273-8300) b) hand carried or delivered to the Customer Service Window (located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), c) mailed to the mailing address set forth in 37 CFR 1.1 (e.g., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450), or d) transmitted to the Office using the Office's Electronic Filing System.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (571) 272-4054. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

Art Unit: 2173

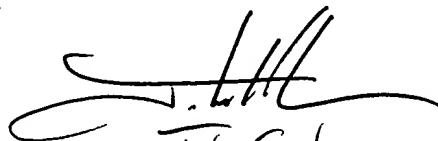
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
December 29, 2005



John Cabeca
SPE, AU 2173